

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

## EHS Circular Letter 2011-36

To: Local Directors of Health

Chief Sanitarians

**Certified Food Inspectors** 

From: Food Protection Program

Date: May 11, 2011

Subject: Goodness Gardens, Inc. Chives

Goodness Gardens, Inc. of New Hampton, NY is voluntarily recalling Chives Lot #0201111, because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. The company is not aware of any illnesses reported in connection with the recall and is coordinating closely with regulatory officials.

The Chives were distributed in NY, CT, MA, PA, MD, AL, IL, and VA through retail stores primarily and one wholesaler in PA.

The Chives were distributed in various plastic clamshell containers: 0.25 oz. (UPC 0 21985 20005 6), 2/3 oz. (UPC 0 21985 10004 2), in 1 lb. bags, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. twist tie bunches.

The recall is the result of a routine sampling program by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection which revealed that the product lot contained the bacteria.

No other Goodness Gardens Inc. products or lots are included in this recall.

You are urged to share the above information with the retail and food service establishments in your jurisdiction that are likely to use the recalled products and to prioritize follow-up with establishments that serve highly susceptible populations especially in schools, day care, health care, elderly feeding programs, etc.

Consumers reporting illness should be advised to contact their primary care physician for proper follow-up and treatment. Local health department staff that received calls from consumers with possible foodborne illness after consumption of this product should follow the usual procedure of completing the 3-page Foodborne Alert form and faxing it to the FPP within 24 hours at (860) 509-8071.

The Department of Consumer Protection is aware of the recall and can be contacted at 860-713-6160 for additional information.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., M.B.A., Chief, Regulatory Services Branch